

ME NO.2 10c

BADMEN OF THE WEST!

BADMEN
anc

Wild Bill Hickok:
INDIAN



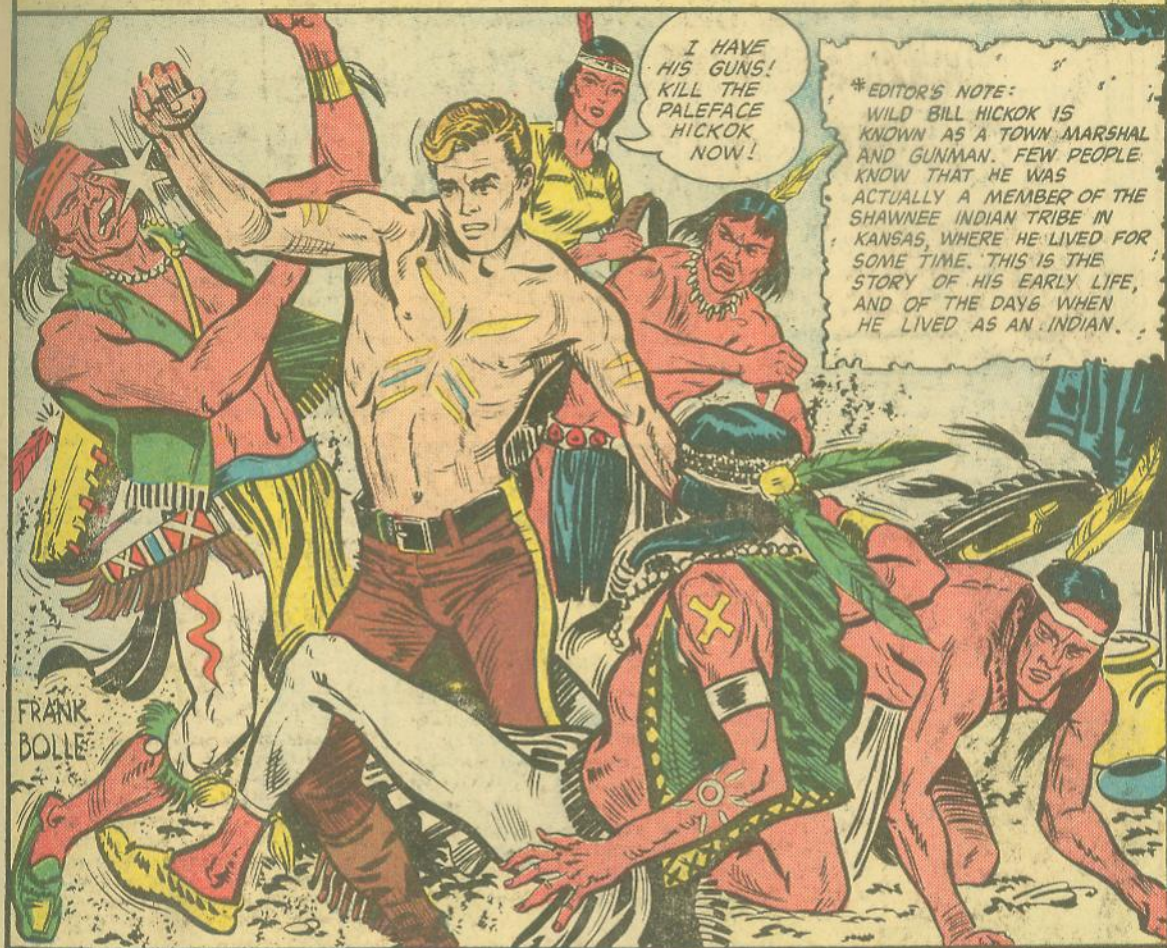


WEB COMIC
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DEATH IN THE TEPEES WAITS FOR THE PALEFACE! DEATH BY THE HAND OF CHOPPING KNIFE OR LIMPING PONY OR LAUGHING LOON! DEATH BY THE HAND OF MOON WOMAN, WIDOW OF THE MAN PALEFACE KILLED! DEATH IS EVERYWHERE, FOR —

WILD BILL HICKOK

—INDIAN!



***EDITOR'S NOTE:**

WILD BILL HICKOK IS KNOWN AS A TOWN MARSHAL AND GUNMAN. FEW PEOPLE KNOW THAT HE WAS ACTUALLY A MEMBER OF THE SHAWNEE INDIAN TRIBE IN KANSAS, WHERE HE LIVED FOR SOME TIME. THIS IS THE STORY OF HIS EARLY LIFE, AND OF THE DAYS WHEN HE LIVED AS AN INDIAN.

FRANK BOLLE

A HOT SUMMER DAY IN THE YEAR 1855. IN LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, MEN ARE GATHERING TO JOIN GENERAL JIM LANE'S RED LEG RANGERS...

I'D LIKE TO JOIN YOUR RANGERS, GENERAL!

SORRY, BOY! MY MEN AND I RIDE ON A DEATH MISSION! YOU'RE TOO YOUNG!

BESIDES, YOU NEED A HORSE AND SADDLE, A RIFLE AND REVOLVER!

YES'R!

HOLD ON, BOY! IF YOU CAN SHOOT...

SHOOT!
EVERYBODY COME SHOOT!

WIN BIG PRIZES BY
TESTING YOUR
MARKSMANSHIP
AGAINST ALL COMERS



ASKING THIS BOY IF HE COULD SHOOT WAS LIKE ASKING A FISH IF IT COULD SWIM. NEXT DAY, AS THE RANGERS GATHER ON THE TOWN GREEN

DOGGONE! SOMEBODY LAUGHED AND MADE ME MISS!



IT WAS YOU THAT LAUGHED! GIT—BEFORE I TAN YER HIDE!

BUT I'M HERE FOR THE SHOOTING! I WANT TO WIN A HORSE AND SADDLE AND GUNS!



ALL RIGHT, SON! SHOOT! IF YOU MISS, I'M A-GOIN' TO TAN YER HIDE RIGHT HERE IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY! SHOOT!

I'M SHOOTING!



MOMENTS LATER, AN AWED LOOK CROSSES THE FACE OF GENERAL JIM LANE AS HE STARES DOWN AT THE TARGET...

BLESS ME! THAT BOY SHOT BETTER WITH ALL THREE OF HIS SHOTS THAN ANYBODY ELSE DID WITH ONE!



BEST SHOOTING I EVER SAW. WHAT'S YOUR NAME, SON?

JUST A MINUTE, GENERAL. THERE'S PISTOL-SHOOTING TOO! THIS BOY AIN'T WALKIN' OFF WITH ANY PRIZES JUST FER BEIN' GOOD WITH A RIFLE!

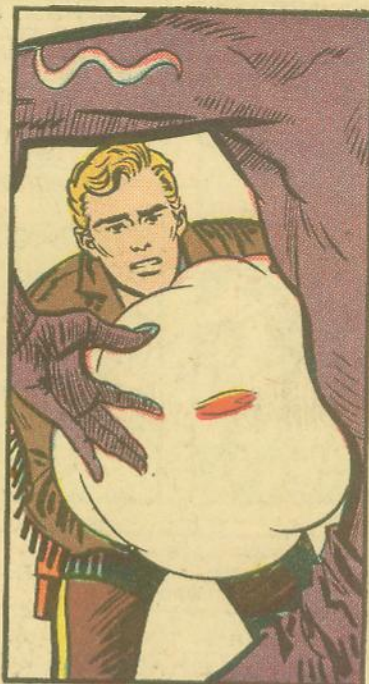
RECRUITING



BUT, IT WAS IN THE REVOLVER-SHOOTING THAT THIS BOY REALLY EXCELLED! AGAIN AND AGAIN, HIS BORROWED SIXGUNS ROARED...



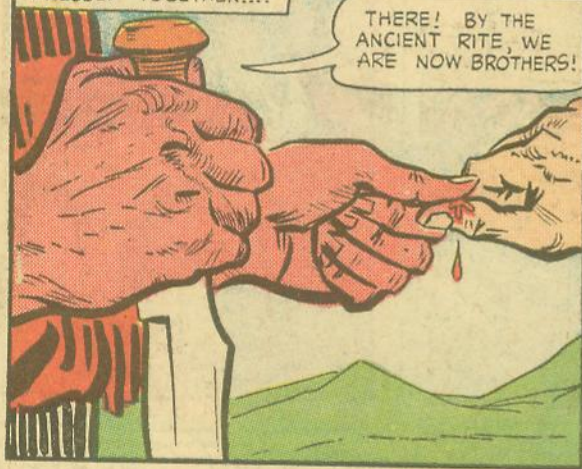




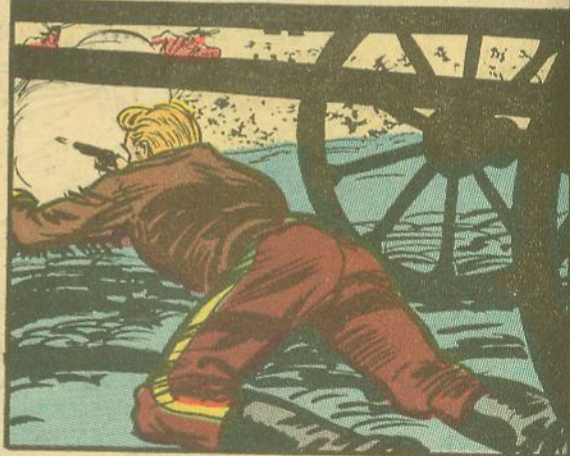
PALEFACE, YOU HAVE SAVED THE LIFE OF LOPING BEAR, CHIEF OF THE SHAWNEE. THESE TRAITERS WOULD HAVE KILLED ME, AND MADE CHOPPING KNIFE CHIEF! COME! WE MAKE BLOOD BROTHERHOOD BETWEEN US!

A SLASH WITH A SHAWNEE HUNTING KNIFE! AS BLOOD OOZES FROM SLICED THUMBS, THEY ARE PRESSED TOGETHER....!

THERE! BY THE ANCIENT RITE, WE ARE NOW BROTHERS!



BILL HICKOK FORGOT HIS BOND DURING THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. HE WAS BUSY DEFENDING KANSANS FROM MISSOURIANS, AND RIDING WITH RED LEGS...



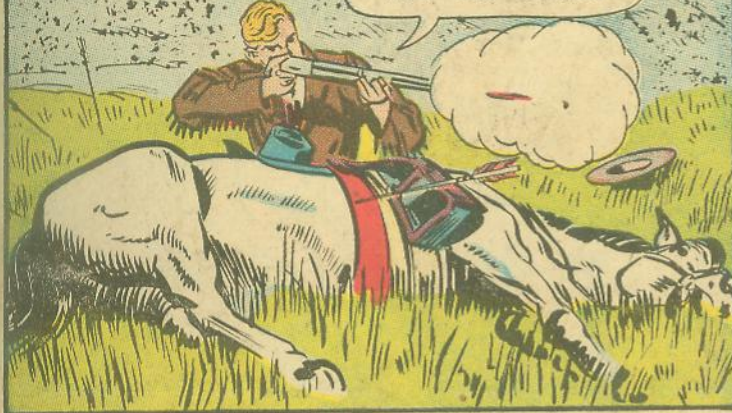
THEN ONE DAY, AFTER LEAVING THE RANGERS, HE IS CAUGHT ALONE ON THE PRAIRIE...

TWENTY, INJUNS! NO PLACE TO HIDE! MY BRONC IS LAME AND CAN'T MAKE A RACE OF IT!



WHEN A BULLET FELS HIS LAMED HORSE, HE FIRES COOLY FROM
BEHIND THE DEAD ANIMAL...

GOT FIVE OF THEM, BUT
THEY KEEP COMING!



A TRAIL OF DEAD INDIANS TESTIFIES
TO HIS ACCURACY WITH HIS COLTS,
BUT THE OTHERS MOVE IN —



—AND BILL HICKOK GOES DOWN
FIGHTING!

TOO MANY!
CAN'T STOP
THEM ALL!



HARD HANDS SWING HIM
AROUND. RAWHIDE THONGS
ARE TWISTED ABOUT HIS
WRISTS —



A HELPLESS PRISONER, HE IS
BROUGHT INTO THE SHAWNEE
VILLAGE FOR THE TORTURE...



HE IS LED FACE TO FACE WITH
THE CHIEF...

MY PALEFACE
BLOOD-BROTHER!

THUNDER!
I'D FORGOTTEN
ALL ABOUT
THE DAY I
SAVED YOUR
LIFE!



HEAR ME, MY PEOPLE. THIS
IS MY PALEFACE BLOOD-
BROTHER. HE IS ONE OF
US! TREAT HIM AS YOU
WOULD MY SON!



LATER, HE IS INTRODUCED TO THE FAMILY OF LOPING BEAR—



MY DAUGHTER, LITTLE PONY!

THE PLEASURE'S ALL MINE, MA'AM!

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, YOUNG BILL HICKOK AND LITTLE PONY SEE MUCH OF EACH OTHER...



TELL ME OF YOUR TRIBE'S MARRIAGE CUSTOMS!

ONE DAY—

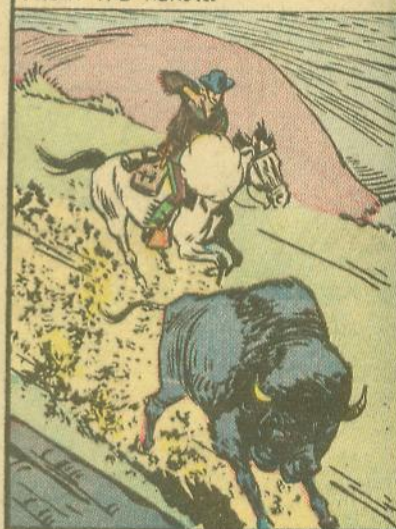
I LIKE THIS FREE LIFE, LITTLE PONY. MARRY ME! I WILL REMAIN HERE AND LIVE THE LIFE OF YOUR PEOPLE!



HICKOK AND LITTLE PONY ARE MARRIED. FOR SOME MONTHS, THEY LIVE HAPPILY...



BILL HICKOK SOON BECOMES THE BEST HUNTER IN THE TRIBE. AGAIN AND AGAIN HIS RIFLE BRINGS DOWN THE BIGGEST BUFFALO FROM THE HERD...



HIS TEPEE IS ALWAYS FILLED WITH FOOD...

MY HUSBAND MAKES ME VERY PROUD! NO OTHER GIRL CAN BOAST SO MANY BUFFALO ROBES, SO MANY STEAKS TO EAT!

SHUCKS! MAN HAS TO TAKE CARE OF HIS WOMAN, DOESN'T HE?

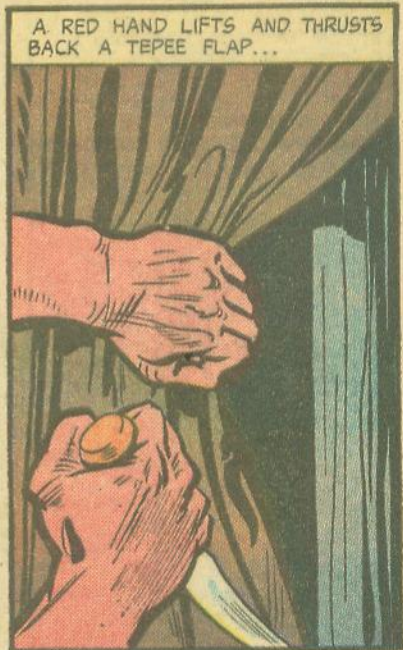
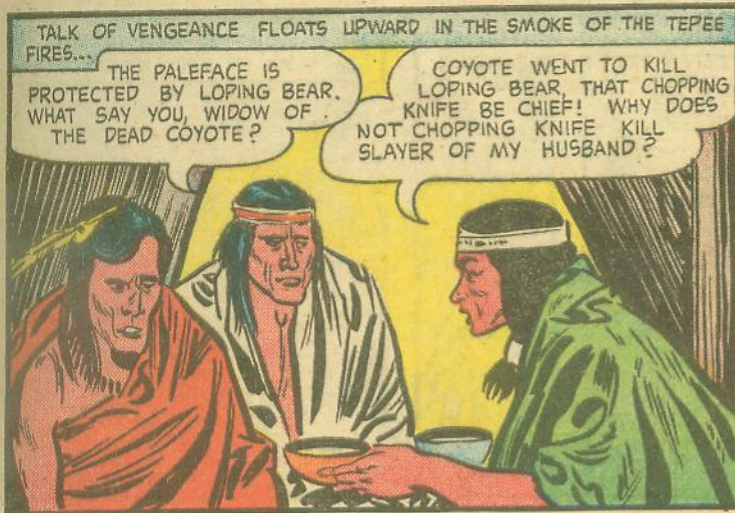


IT SEEMS A HAPPY LIFE—BUT HERE AND THERE BLACK EYES THAT ARE ALIVE WITH HATE STARE GRIMLY AT THE LITTLE HICKOK TEPEE...



THE PALEFACE KILLED COYOTE AND JUMPING LOON!

AIE! AND CRAZY CALF AND DOG RUNNING WHEN WE SENT THEM TO KILL LOPING BEAR SOME MONTHS AGO!



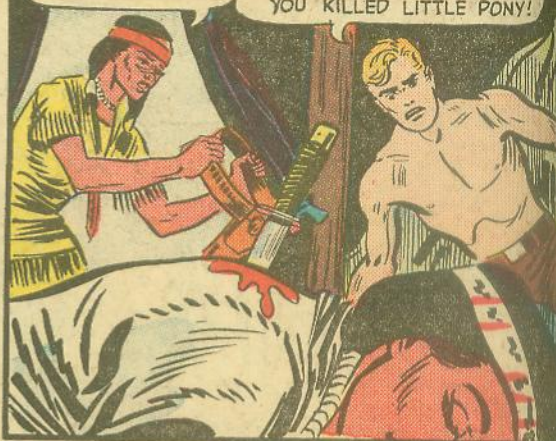
IN A FRENZY, THE SHAWNEE WIFE OF BILL HICKOK
LEAPS TO HIS DEFENSE—



BEWARE, BEEL!
THEY HAVE COME TO
KILL — Aiiieeeee!

I HAVE HIS GUNS!

YOU RED MURDERERS!
YOU KILLED LITTLE PONY!



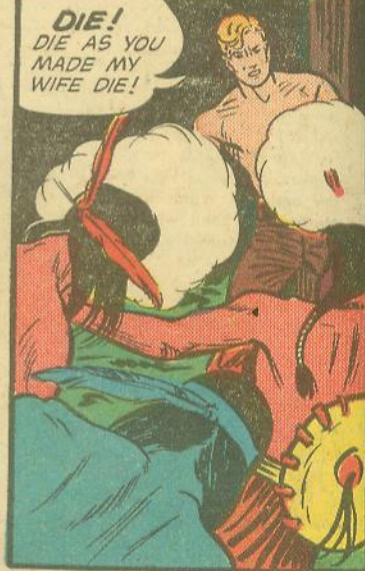
MOON WOMAN IS FAST AS SHE
SWINGS THE HEAVY SHELLBELTS
AWAY FROM HICKOK, BUT THERE
IS A MADNESS IN YOUNG BILL
THAT MAKES HIM CHAIN-LIGHT-
NING IN HIS MOVEMENTS...

YOU KEEP THE **BELTS!**
I'LL TAKE THE **GUNS!**

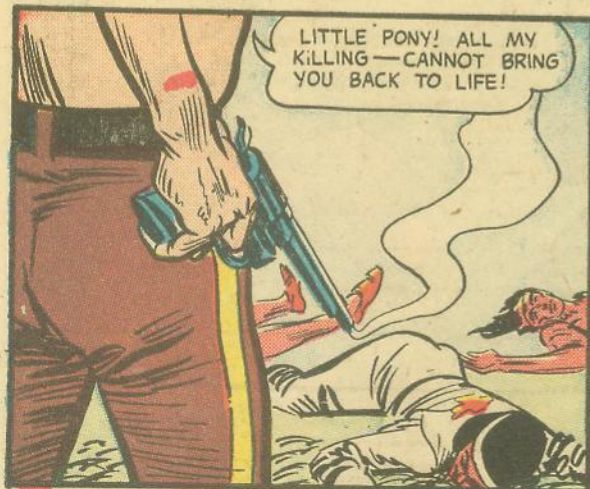


FRENZY AND SORROW AND FURY
WORK IN HICKOK THIS NIGHT. HIS
GUNS BLAST WILDLY, BRINGING
DEATH TO THOSE WHO SEEK TO
DEAL OUT DEATH THEMSELVES.

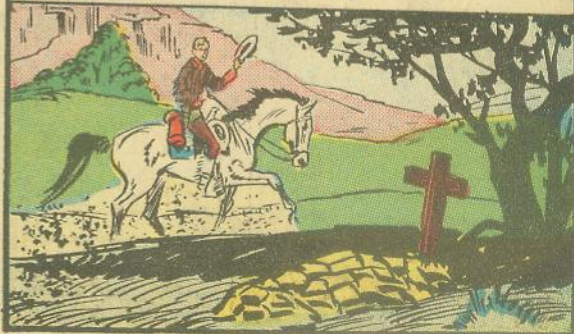
DIE!
DIE AS YOU
MADE MY
WIFE DIE!



LITTLE PONY! ALL MY
KILLING — CANNOT BRING
YOU BACK TO LIFE!



IT WAS AFTER LITTLE PONY WAS BURIED THAT BILL
HICKOK TURNED HIS BACK ON THE SHAWNEE CAMP.
HIS LIFE AS AN INDIAN WAS AT AN END. HE RODE
OFF TO MONTICELLO TOWNSHIP, JOHNSON COUNTY,
KANSAS—WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS FIRST JOB AS
"TOWN TAMER", OR MARSHAL...



FOX and GEES
HARE AND HOUND

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CHEST of
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JOAQUIN MURIETTA

FOR ALMOST FOUR YEARS HE WAS THE MOST FEARED AND HATED MAN IN CALIFORNIA. AND HIS OWN RAGE WAS TURNED AGAINST THAT OF AMERICAN AND CHINESE, SPANISH AND MEXICAN. HE STOLE AND HE KILLED, AND HE SEEMED UTTERLY WITHOUT MERCY. NO MAN WOULD BE TAKEN INTO HIS GANG OF CUT-THROAT ROBBERS AND SLAYERS WITHOUT PROOF THAT HE HAD KILLED AT LEAST ONE MAN!

THIS IS THE MAN HISTORY KNOWS AS **JOAQUIN MURIETTA**, THE TERROR OF THE STANISLAUS, THE MAN THE WEST CALLED —

"THE CALIFORNIA TERROR!"



DURING 1850, MURIETTA WORKED AS A GOLD MINER ON THE BANKS OF THE STANISLAUS RIVER IN SONORA COUNTY...

YOUR FOOD, JOAQUIN!

COMING, ROSITA! I HAVE PANNED MUCH GOLD TODAY SOON WE WILL BE RICH! AH, THIS IS A FINE WORLD, THIS CALIFORNIO!



THAT "FINE WORLD" ENDED FOR THE YOUNG MINER ONE NIGHT IN LATE SPRING...

COME ON IN, GREASER! WE GOT NEWS FOR YOU!

ROSITA! WHAT...?





GREASERS AIN'T WANTED HERE! THIS IS JUST TO TEACH YOU TO GET OUT AND STAY OUT! WE SAW YOU STEALIN' GOLD FROM OUR FRIENDS!



HE'S OUT COLD.

WHEN HE COMES TO, I DON'T THINK HE'LL STAY AROUND HERE...!

BEFORE THEY WENT, THE BEARDED HOODLUMS TOOK THE GOLD THAT WAS ALL THAT STOOD BETWEEN JOAQUIN MURIETTA AND POVERTY—

YOU REALLY THINK HE STOLE THIS GOLD FROM OTHER MINERS, JOE?

WHO CARES? IT AIN'T HIS NO MORE! IT'S OURS!

WHAT WILL WE DO, NOW?

RIDE TO MY BROTHER'S RANCH. HE WILL GIVE ME A JOB. WE WILL FORGET WHAT HAPPENED HERE!

SOME MONTHS LATER, IN A SMALL TOWN NEAR THE MURIETTA RANCH—

HOLD ON YOU! THAT HORSE YOU'RE RIDING WAS STOLEN FROM ME!

THE HORSE BELONGS TO MY BROTHER! I WORK FOR HIM!



HEY, BOYS! THIS GREASER AND HIS BROTHER ARE HORSE-THIEVES!

WHO CAN TELL WHO WAS IN THE RIGHT? WERE THE MURIETTA BROTHERS HORSE THIEVES? OR WAS THEIR ACCUSER HONESTLY MISTAKEN? WITHIN A FEW HOURS, HIS BROTHER WAS HANGING FROM A ROPE, AND A LASH WAS CURLING OVER JOAQUIN'S BACK!





HIS MEN ENTERED TOWNS, DISGUISED AS PEONS OR TRADESMEN, TO LEARN WHERE GOLD AND JEWELS WERE HIDDEN...



WITHIN A FEW DAYS, MURIETTA WOULD LEAD HIS KILLERS TO THE PLACE SELECTED FOR THE ROBBERY...

I SEE MY MEN USED THEIR EARS WELL! THOSE JEWELS HAVE PURCHASED YOUR LIFE, SENOR!



SOMETIMES JOAQUIN MURIETTA HIMSELF RODE ON THESE SPYING VENTURES. AND SOMETIMES HE WAS RECOGNIZED!

THERE HE IS! MURIETTA HIMSELF!



YOU WILL NEVER CATCH ME, SENORS!



BLAM!



THE
SOUND
OF
JOAQUIN
MURIETTA'S
MOCKING
LAUGHTER
RAN
ACROSS
ALL
CALIFORNIA,
FROM
SAN JUAN
CAPISTRANO
TO
FORT ROSS...

YOU 'AVE ALL WINTER TO PAN THAT GOLD. NOW I
TAKE IT FROM YOU IN HALF AN HOUR!
HA! HA! HA!



ONCE HE WAS ARRESTED AT A DANCE..

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST,
STRANGER. YOU CAN'T
COME IN HERE AND
START A FIGHT!

OF COURSE,
SHERIFF!
I WILL GO
GLADLY
WITH YOU!



ON THE ROAD TO JAIL, MURIETTA
WHIRLED AND DROVE A DAGGER
DOWNWARD—

TOO BAD YOU
WILL NOT LIVE—TO TELL THE
AMERICANOS YOU HAD JOAQUIN
MURIETTA HIMSELF AS YOUR
PRISONER!



IN 1852, THE BANDITS DROVE A
HERD OF SEVERAL HUNDRED HORSES
TO SONORA, ENTIRELY UNMOLESTED
BY THE LAW—



OF THESE, MURIETTA PICKED OUT THE
SWIFTEST FOR HIMSELF AND HIS
MEN—

THERE'S A GOOD ONE,
JUAN! TO MAKE GETAWAYS, WE NEED
THE FASTEST
HORSES WE
CAN FIND!

SI,
JOAQUIN!



WHenever HE HEARD A MAN WAS
ON HIS TRAIL, HE MADE IT A POINT
TO SEEK HIM OUT...

THIS FELLOW WILSON WANTS
TO CAPTURE ME. I WANT YOU
MEN TO STAGE A FIGHT IN
FRONT OF HIS HOTEL...



AS THE FIGHT PROGRESSED,
WILSON CAME OUT OF HIS ROOM.

SAY, WHAT'S
GOING ON?





BUT THAT CHARMED LIFE WAS NOT ALWAYS TO BE SO LUCKY. IN MAY, 1853, AN AROUSED CALIFORNIA DEPUTIZED HARRY LOVE AND TWENTY RANGERS TO BRING IN MURIETTA, DEAD OR ALIVE! IN JULY, LOVE MET UP WITH SOME OF MURIETTA'S MEN...



CAPTAIN LOVE DID NOT KNOW THAT THE MAN HE ADDRESSED WAS MURIETTA HIMSELF!

ALL I KNOW, SEÑOR, IS THAT HE IS NOT HERE FOR YOU TO CAPTURE!



AT THAT MOMENT A MAN RODE UP WHO KNEW THE INFAMOUS KILLER AND BANDIT!

CAPTAIN! WATCH YOURSELF! THAT MAN IS MURIETTA!

FOOLS!



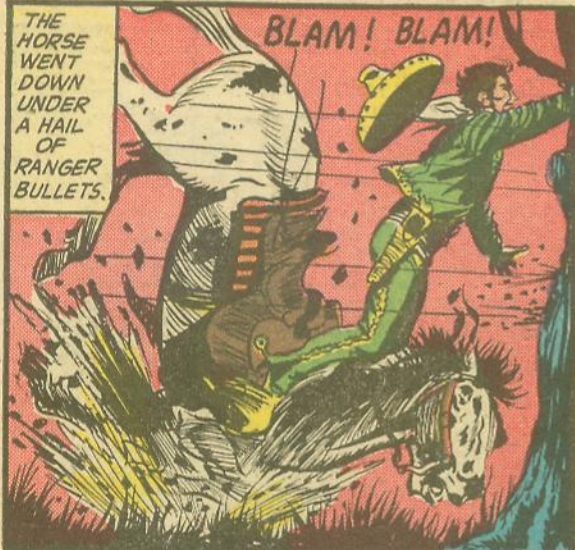
HE RODE OFF, JUMPING FROM A HIGH BLUFF—

—BLAMM!



THE HORSE WENT DOWN UNDER A HAIL OF RANGER BULLETS.

BLAM! BLAM!



ON FOOT, THE BANDIT RAN ON— ONE! TWO! THREE! BULLETS PUMPED INTO HIM, ONE AFTER THE OTHER. HE STAGGERED—

HOLD! NO MORE! THIS IS ENOUGH— YOUR WORK— IS DONE!



THE DEATH HE VISITED UPON SO MANY OTHERS CAME AT LAST TO HIM!



HIS HEAD WAS CUT OFF AND PUT ON DISPLAY IN SAN FRANCISCO...





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BILLY THE KID

THIS IS THE STORY OF
A PRIVATE WAR—
A WAR THAT FORMS THE
BACKDROP AGAINST WHICH
THE GUNMAN-KILLER THE
WEST KNOWS AS
BILLY THE KID FIRST
CAME TO PROMINENCE!
A WAR THAT TAKES ITS
PLACE IN THE SOUTH-
WEST AS ONE OF THE
GRIMMEST TALES OF
DEATH AND KILLING
EVER WRITTEN BY
ROARING COLT .45s!
IT HAS BEEN DUG FROM
OLD LETTERS, FROM
BITS OF BULLET-
RIDDLED CLOTH, FROM
AN OLD BIBLE, FROM
THE DYING WHISPERS
OF MEN HIRED TO
KILL!

IT IS THE PERSONAL
WAR OF—

**"BILLY THE KID
—AVENGER!"**



WE GOT BILLY WHERE
WE WANT HIM—ODDS OF
FIVE TO ONE! THIS IS
WHERE THE KID DIES!

IT BEGINS WITH A WAGON
RATTLING DOWN THE DUSTY
MAIN STREET OF THE TOWN
OF LINCOLN. ON THE WAGON
ARE SEATED ALEX AND
SUSAN MCSWEEN, A YOUNG
LAWYER AND HIS BRIDE...

THEY COME, SENOR
MURPHY! HE EES
WEESH TO SETTLE
EEN THEES TOWN
YOU OWN,
THEES LINCOLN!

WE NEED
A LAWYER
HERE!
I'LL BE
GLAD TO
HAVE
THEM!



L.T. MURPHY, A FORMER MAJOR
IN THE U.S. ARMY, PRACTICALLY
OWNED LINCOLN. IT WAS A
TOUGH TOWN. HERE THE
HORREL GANG HAD SETTLED
ITS GRUDGE AGAINST THE
TOWN WITH SIXGUNS. HERE
MURPHY MAINTAINED HIS
CREW OF HIRED KILLERS—
WHO RUSTLED CATTLE FOR
HIM FROM THE BIG CHISUM
RANCH IN-BETWEEN-TIMES!
MURPHY HIRED
MCSWEEN TO BE HIS
LAWYER...



ONE DAY—

OLD JOHN CHISUM
CAUGHT SOME OF
MY BOYS STEALING
HIS STEERS. I WANT
YOU TO DEFEND
THEM!

THEY ARE
EVIL MEN,
MR. MURPHY!
I REFUSE
TO DEFEND
THEM!



SO, JOHN CHISUM
HIRED
ALEXANDER MCSWEEN
TO PROSECUTE
THOSE RUSTLERS.
MCSWEEN HAD
THEM CONVICTED
AND HUNG. AND
BIG L.T. MURPHY
SWORE VENGEANCE!

THEY'LL DIE, ALL OF 'EM—
FOR HANGIN' MY BOYS!
I SWEAR IT!



THE OPENING SHOT IN THIS WAR
OF VENGEANCE CAME IN
FEBRUARY, 1879...

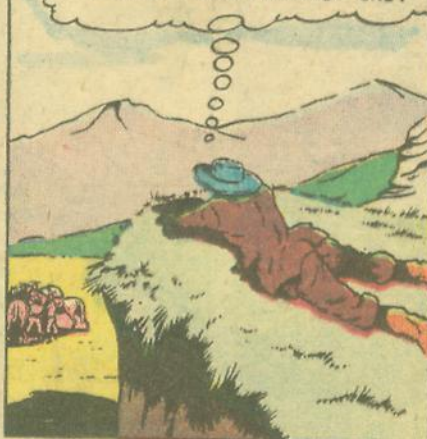
YOU'RE MCSWEEN'S PARTNER,
TUNSTALL. MURPHY SENDS
HIS REGARDS!

BLAMM!



THERE WERE TWO WITNESSES TO THIS
COLD-BLOODED SLAYING. ONE OF
THEM WAS **BILLY THE KID**, WORKING
AS A COWHAND ON THE TUNSTALL
RANCH...

THE LOW-DOWN, DIRTY
KILLERS! TWENTY AGAINST ONE!



MAN SHOT DOWN IN A
FAIR FIGHT IS ALL RIGHT—
BUT THIS WAS MURDER.
TUNSTALL WAS A FRIEND
OF MINE. THOSE HOMBRES
WILL PAY FOR THIS!



HE STALKED THEIR TRAILS WITH A CALM GRIM-
NESS. HIS HORSES WENT NORTH TO A LITTLE
ADOBE CANTINA—

ONE OF THEM STOPPED
TO WET HIS THROAT HERE. I'LL GIVE
HIM A LITTLE LEAD TO
CHEW ON, TOO!



HOWDY! I BEEN FOLLOWING
YOU FOR A SPELL, HOMBRE.
ALL THE WAY FROM
TUNSTALL RANCH!

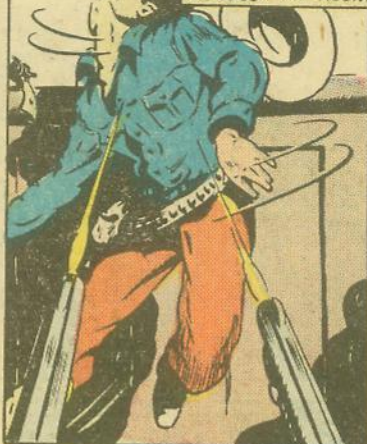
THE KID!!
HE'S—AFTER
ME!



DEATH SHOWED ITSELF IN THE KID'S BLUE EYES. THE GUN-MAN WENT FOR HIS COLT—



THE KID DID NOT SEEM TO MOVE, YET SUDDENLY HIS SIXGUNS WERE IN HIS HANDS AND SPITTING FLAME AND LEAD ACROSS THE ROOM...



THEN BILLY WHEELED AND WAS GONE, AND ONLY HIS HORSE'S HOOFEATS CAME BACK INTO THE ROOM WHERE A MAN'S FINGERS WERE STIFFENING IN DEATH.



THE TRAIL WENT WEST, TO A FRONTIER FORT—



SOMETIMES THE KID CAUGHT HIS MAN OUT IN THE OPEN, WHERE ONLY COYOTE HOWLED THE STORY OF THE KILL—

THE KID!

YOU WERE ONE OF 'EM! I DON'T KNOW YOUR NAME, BUT I'LL NEVER FORGET YOUR FACE!

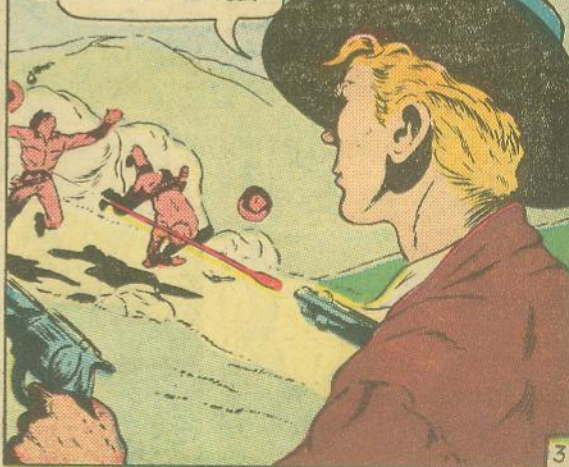


SEVERAL TIMES BILLY THE KID RODE WITH "POSSES" OF HIRED GUNMEN WHO DEFENDED ALEXANDER MCSWEEN, THE LAWYER, FROM MURPHY'S OWN PAID GUNMEN...



THESE MEN GUNNED DOWN MORTON AND BAKER...

THIS IS FOR TUNSTALL— WHO NEVER GOT THE CHANCE I'M GIVING YOU!



THEY TRAPPED TEXAS BILL ROBERTS AT A SAW-MILL ON THE TULAROSA RIVER...

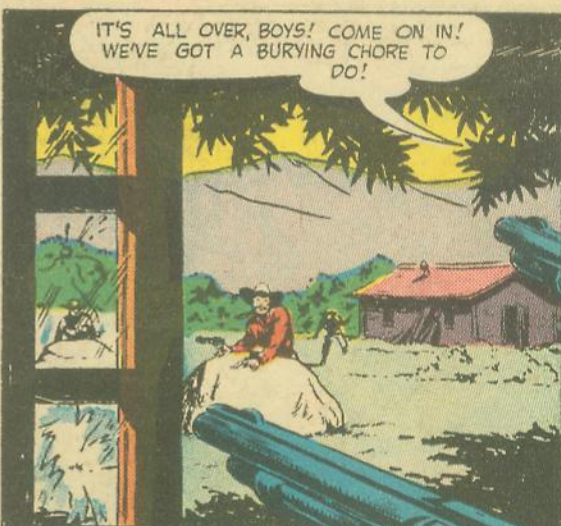


THERE'S THIRTEEN OF THEM, AND ONLY ONE OF ME, BUT I AIM TO COST 'EM PLENTY!

IT WAS BILLY WHO MADE A DASH FOR THE REAR DOOR OF THE LITTLE MILL —



JUST ONE GOOD CRACK AT HIM IS ALL I NEED!



IT'S ALL OVER, BOYS! COME ON IN! WE'VE GOT A BURYING CHORE TO DO!

MORE THAN ONCE, A PRETTY GIRL WHISPERED INFORMATION TO THE KID...

THESE MAN YOU ASK FOR EES COME EEN TO TOWN YESTERDAY, BEELEE! HE EES STAY AT CHAVROS HOUSE!



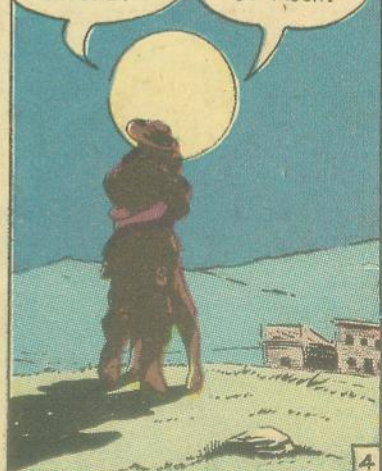
YOU WEEEL WALK ME 'OME? I THOUGHT YOU WANT TO SEEING THEES MAN!

I DO, CHIQUITA! LATER!



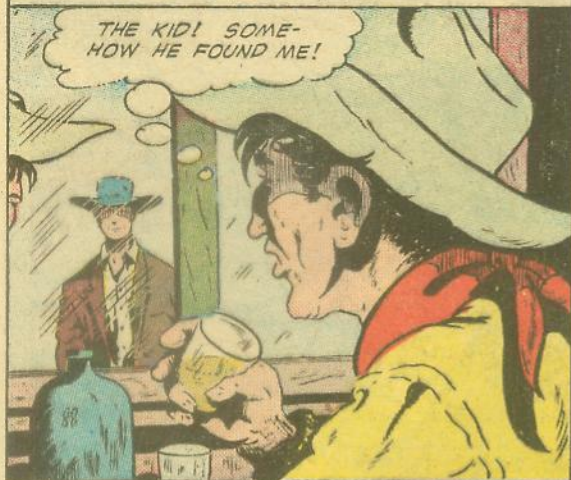
I'VE KILLED A LOT OF MEN, HONEY. I NEVER KISSED YOU BEFORE!

TEE-HEE! NO WONDER ALL THEE GIRLS EES LIKE YOU SO MUCH!

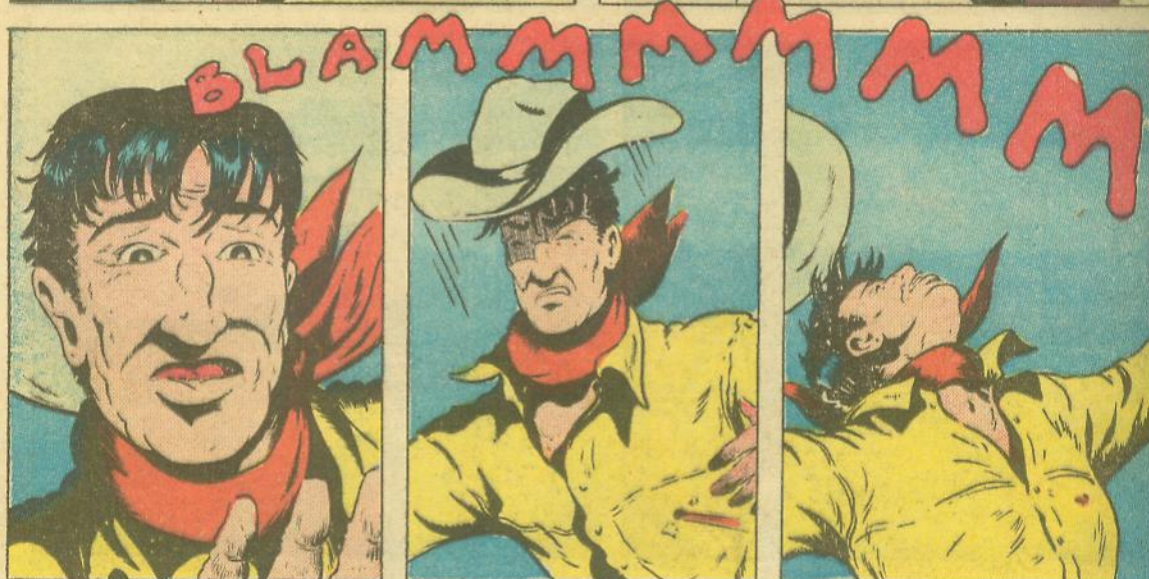


SOMETIME LATER THAT SAME NIGHT, IN THE BAR OF THE CHAVROS HOUSE...

THE KID! SOME-
HOW HE FOUND ME!



I'LL CUT YOU DOWN BEFORE
YOU CAN CLEAR LEATHER!



THE FALL OF HIS BODY RINGS
LOUD IN THE SUDDEN STILLNESS...



ONE MORE KILLER SENT TO
BOOT HILL! THE NUMBER OF
VICTIMS GROWS! ONE MORE
TOWN POUNDED INTO DISTANCE
BEHIND THE GRIMLY RIDING
FIGURE OF THE KID!

ONLY A FEW MORE LEFT!
I'LL GET THEM ALL BEFORE
I'M DONE!



BEFORE THE KID COULD CONTINUE
ON HIS PRIVATE VENDETTA, HE
WORKED ONCE MORE WITH THE
McSWEEN "POSSE"—

HERE COMES MURPHY'S
MEN—GET READY!



RIFLE BARRELS BELCHED THEIR SPITS OF FLAME! HOT LEAD RAN TO MEET MURPHY'S MEN. SHERIFF BRADY (WHO RAN THE LAW OF LINCOLN AS L.T. MURPHY ORDERED, DROPPED!

GNGGG!!!



ONE MAN RAN FOR HIS LIFE, STRAIGHT UP THE DUSTY STREET, UNTIL—

SHOT ME—
IN THE BACK!



AS THE GUN BATTLE RAGED ALL AROUND HIM, THIS MAN LAY HELPLESS, DYING! NO MAN DARED TO BRING HIM WATER.

WATER—WANT WATER!
SOMEBODY...BRING ME
...WATER!

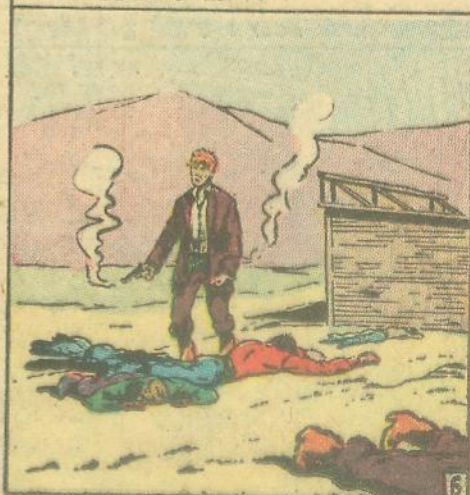


HIS SUCCESSFUL AMBUSH MADE BILLY THE KID A MARKED MAN. SOME DAYS LATER HE WAS AMBUSHED BY FIVE OF THE MURPHY GANG...

I GOT TWO BULLETS IN MY GUNS FOR EACH ONE OF YOU—I'M BETTING I WON'T NEED THEM ALL!!

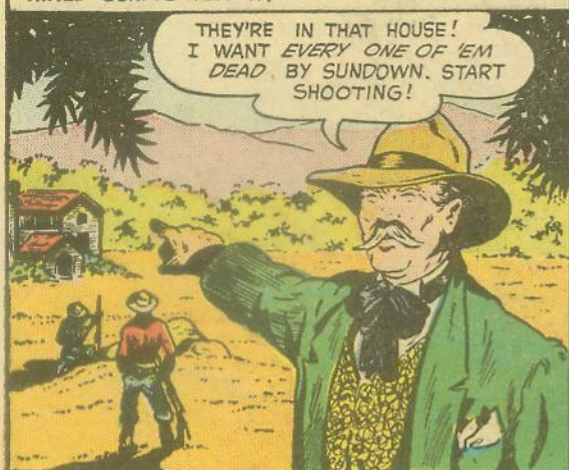


BILLY THE KID TOLD THE TRUTH! IN LESS THAN FIFTEEN SECONDS, FIVE MEN LAY DEAD AROUND HIM, AND HE STILL HAD THREE BULLETS LEFT.



IT WAS ON A HOT JULY DAY THAT McSWEEN WAS FINALLY TRAPPED IN HIS OWN HOUSE. WITH McSWEEN WAS BILLY THE KID AND OTHERS OF HIS HIRED GUNFIGHTERS...

THEY'RE IN THAT HOUSE!
I WANT EVERY ONE OF 'EM
DEAD BY SUNDOWN. START
SHOOTING!



DURING ALL THAT DAY, NO MAN DIED. THIS WAS BECOMING A SIEGE. NEXT DAY AT DAWN...

AAGGH!



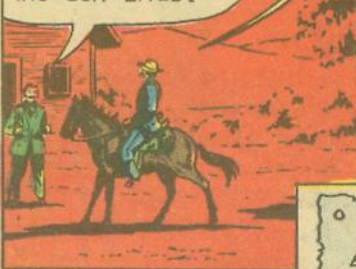
A MOMENT LATER, HIS COMPANION FELL—AND THE BATTLE WAS ON IN FULL FORCE!



AS A COLONEL OF U.S. CAVALRY HELD ALEXANDER McSWEEN IN TALK, THE BESIEGERS SET FIRE TO THEIR HOUSE...

I COMMAND YOU TO SURRENDER, SIR! STOP FIRING AT ONCE! THROW DOWN YOUR ARMS!

IF I DID THAT, SIR, THOSE VARMINTS WOULD KILL ME! THEY ARE ALL RUSTLERS AND MURDERERS! MY MEN AND MYSELF ARE ONLY DEFENDING OUR LIVES!



THE FIRE CAUGHT HOLD OF THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE! THROUGH A SEA OF FLAMES, McSWEEN WALKED TO HIS DEATH...



ONLY McSWEEN AND THREE OTHER MEN OUT OF THE FOURTEEN CAUGHT IN THAT BLAZING HOUSE DIED BY BULLETS. THE OTHERS ESCAPED WITH BILLY THE KID THE LAST TO LEAVE!

THEY WON HERE,—BUT SOME DAY I'LL COME BACK TO SETTLE THIS FIGHT, ONCE AND FOR ALL!



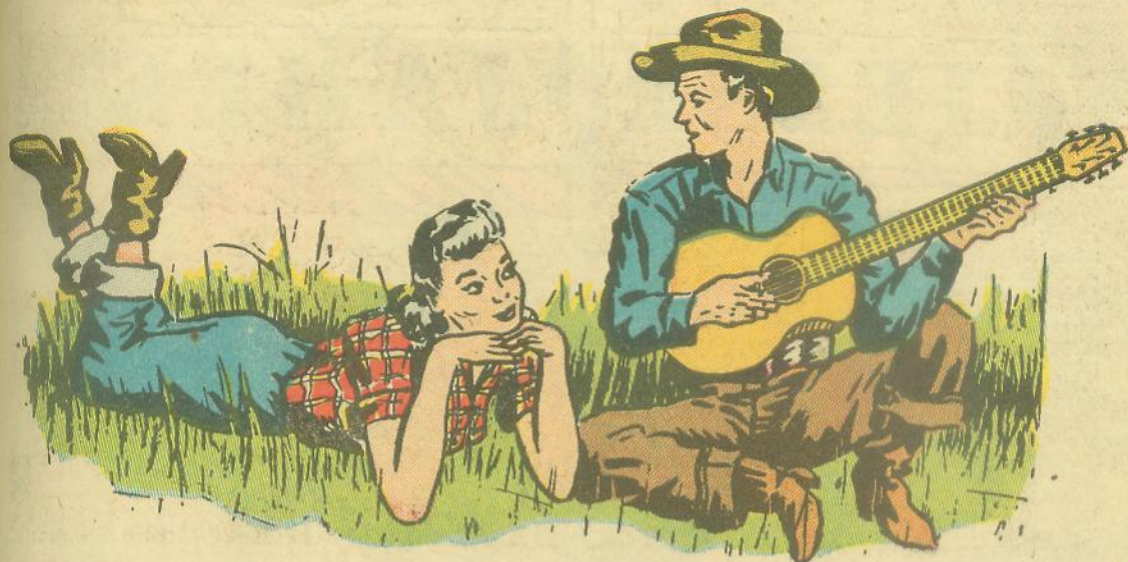
THE DEATH OF McSWEEN OFFICIALLY ENDED THE LINCOLN COUNTY WAR.

MURPHY HIMSELF WAS DEAD WHEN THE FIGHT AT THE McSWEEN HOUSE TOOK PLACE.

OVER TWO HUNDRED MEN ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE DIED IN THIS WAR, INCLUDING ALL THE PRINCIPALS.

THOUGH THE WAR ITSELF WAS ENDED, BILLY THE KID KEPT UP HIS OWN VENDETTA, THAT WAS NOT TO END UNTIL THREE YEARS LATER, WHEN SHERIFF PAT GARRETT WAS TO SHOOT HIM DOWN—





PLAY GUITAR IN 7 DAYS OR GET YOUR MONEY BACK

ED SALE, TOP RADIO GUITARIST, TEACHER OF HUNDREDS OF GUITARISTS, PROFESSIONALS, WILL POSITIVELY TEACH YOU TO PLAY A BEAUTIFUL SONG THE FIRST DAY! AND ANY SONG BY EAR OR NOTE IN 7 DAYS!

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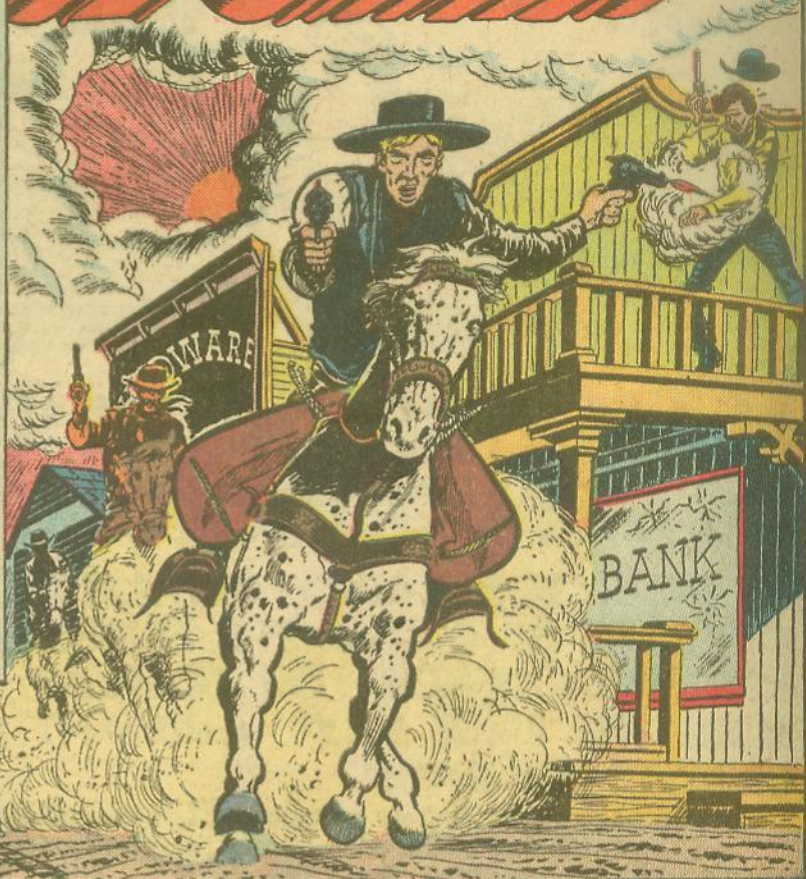
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ED SALE, Studio 9401, Bradley Beach, N. J.

JESSE JAMES

THE CIVIL WAR WAS OVER. BITTER FEELINGS RAN RAMPANT ALONG THE KANSAS-MISSOURI BORDER. CARPETBAGGERS AND RIFRAFF CAME INTO MISSOURI FROM THE NORTH. THEY STOLE AND ROBBED. IN ANSWER TO THOSE ROBBERIES, A YOUNG MISSOURIAN NAMED JESSE JAMES BEGAN TO ROB, TOO! FRESH FROM RECENT SERVICE WITH QUANTRILL'S RAIDERS, RECOVERED FROM HIS WAR WOUNDS, HE BEGAN BY ROBBING TWO BANKS. WORD FLASHED ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THERE WAS A NEW KIND OF BADMAN LOOSE IN THE UNITED STATES! HE WAS THE —

BANK ROBBER!



THESE WERE DESPERATE TIMES. A MAN WAS NOT SAFE ON THE LONELY HIGHWAY, LATE AT NIGHT



NOR WAS HE SAFE — EVEN ON HIS OWN FARM!



THAT FLAILING SIX-GUN BARREL DID NOTHING MORE THAN STUN JESSE JAMES. PHYSICALLY. BUT DEEP INSIDE, IT LEFT A BRAND— A BRAND OF HATE!



FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS, JESSE RODE HERE AND THERE IN MISSOURI, VISITING NEIGHBORING TOWNS...



HIS EYES SAW EVERYTHING—



ONE NIGHT, JESSE JAMES MET WITH HIS BROTHER FRANK, AND WITH BOB AND COLE YOUNGER...



THE DATE: FEBRUARY 13, 1866. THE PLACE: LIBERTY, MISSOURI, IN ITS LITTLE BANK—



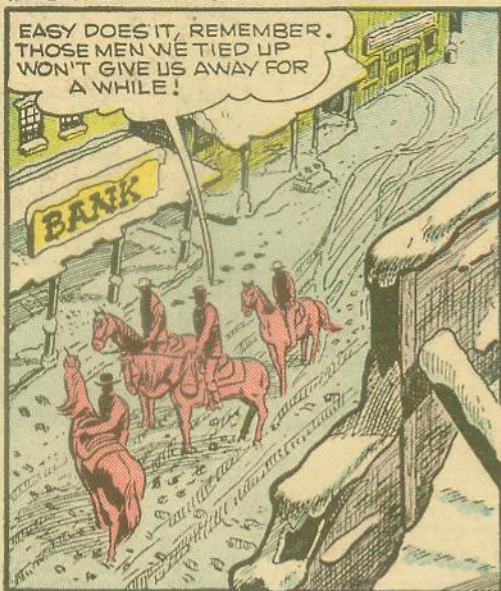
HE USED A WHITE GRAIN SACK— THAT WAS TO BE HIS TRADE MARK IN LATER ROBBERIES...



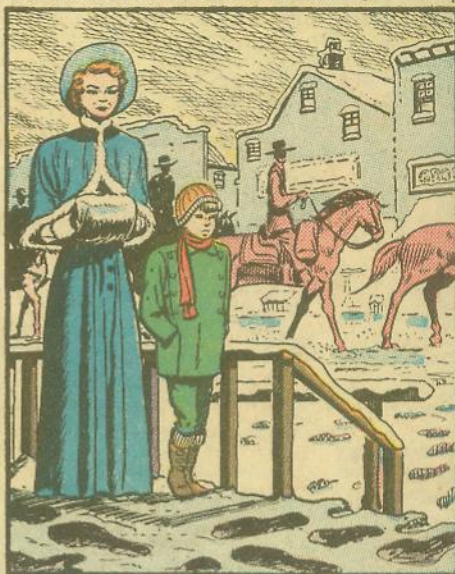
THE SECONDS TICKED OFF. THE ONLY SOUND THAT WAS HEARD WAS THE DRY, RUSTLING NOISE OF CRISP GREENBACKS BEING THRUST INTO THE BAG...



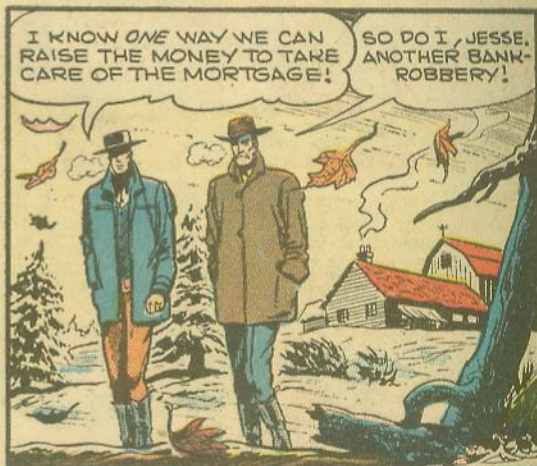
IN A MOMENT, THEIR JOB WAS DONE. NO ONE NOTICED THEM AS THEY SWUNG UP INTO THEIR SADDLES —



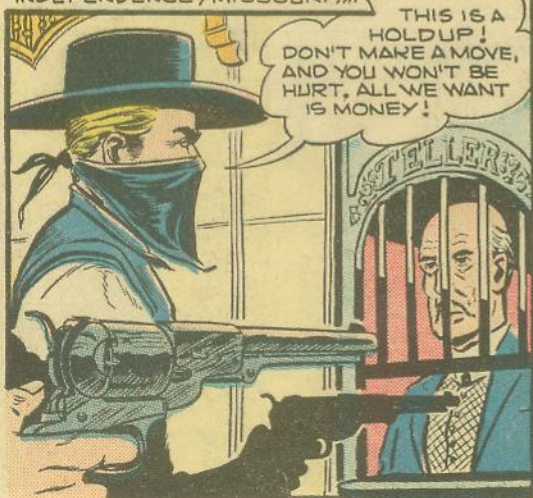
NO ONE PAID THEM ANY ATTENTION AS THEY TROTTED OFF. AFTER ALL — WHOEVER HEARD OF ANYONE ROBBING A BANK IN BROAD DAYLIGHT?



STILL NO MAN CAN FORETELL WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO JESSE JAMES, IF HIS MOTHER HAD BEEN ABLE TO PAY OFF THE MORTGAGE ON THEIR FARM, —



ON OCTOBER 30, 1866, THE SECOND BANK- ROBBERY IN AMERICA TOOK PLACE IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI. —



BESIDE JESSE HIMSELF, THERE WERE THESE MEN IN HIS GANG AT THIS TIME —



WITH THE GRAIN SACK BOBBING AT HIS POMMEL, JESSE RODE DOWN THE MAIN STREET OF INDEPENDENCE. SUDDENLY A GUN ROARED!

THOSE MEN JUST ROBBED THE BANK!

I'LL BRING DOWN ONE OF THEM!

CRACK!



SPURS JABBED INTO HORSES! IN ONE LEAP, THE BANDITS WERE AT FULL GALLOP, THEIR REVOLVERS FLASHING...

BLAM! BLAM!



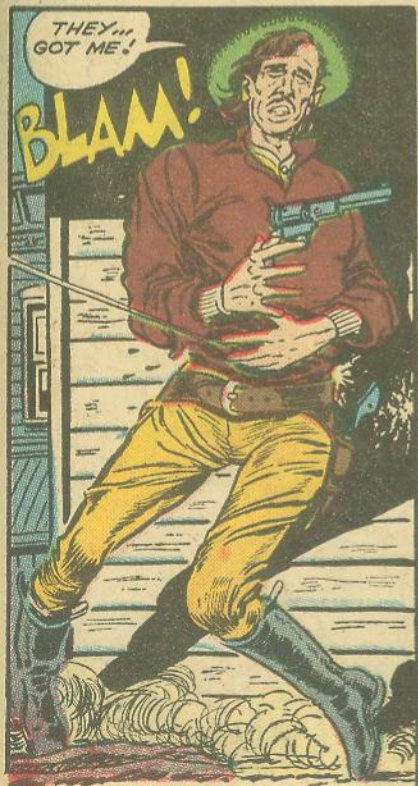
ATTRACTED BY THE SOUND OF GUNFIRE, MEN CAME RUNNING, TO ADD THEIR OWN FIRE TO THE DIN...



OUTLAW BULLETS CAUGHT SOME AND PINNED THEM IN DEATH TO THE WALL AGAINST WHICH THEY STOOD...

THEY... GOT ME!

BLAM!



OTHERS FELL IN THE DUSTY STREET...

BLAM!



ANGRY MEN FORMED A POSSE THAT WENT GALLOPING OUT OF INDEPENDENCE HARD ON THE HEELS OF THESE DARING ROBBERS...

THEY CAN'T GET AWAY!

WE'LL CORNER THE KILLERS BEFORE DARK!



THAT POSSE LOST THE TRAIL. SAFE FROM PURSUIT, THE GANG DIVIDED UP THEIR LOOT. THEY HAD TAKEN \$62,000 FROM LIBERTY, AND \$2000 FROM INDEPENDENCE. THE TASTE FOR LOOT WAS IN THEIR BLOOD!



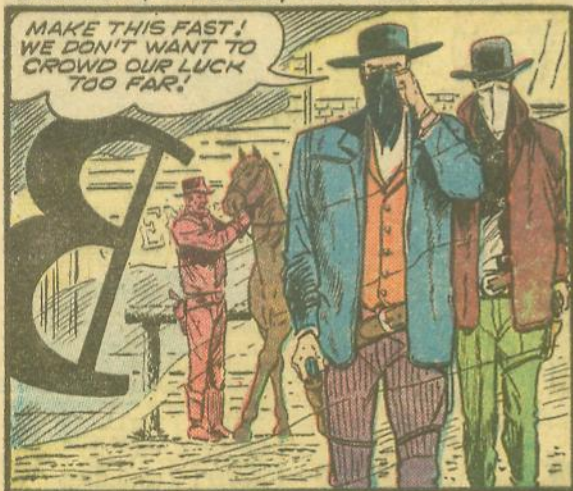
IT'S AN EASY WAY TO GET MONEY. I VOTE WE KEEP ON ROBBING!

FOR A FEW MONTHS, THE GANG LAID LOW. THE JAMES BOYS WORKED THEIR FARM, BUT SOMETIMES JESSE SLIPPED AWAY, TO STUDY OTHER BANKS...



THIS ONE'S JUST AS EASY TO TAKE AS THE OTHERS!

IT WAS MARCH 2, 1867 WHEN JESSE RODE INTO SAVANNAH, MISSOURI, WITH HIS MEN...



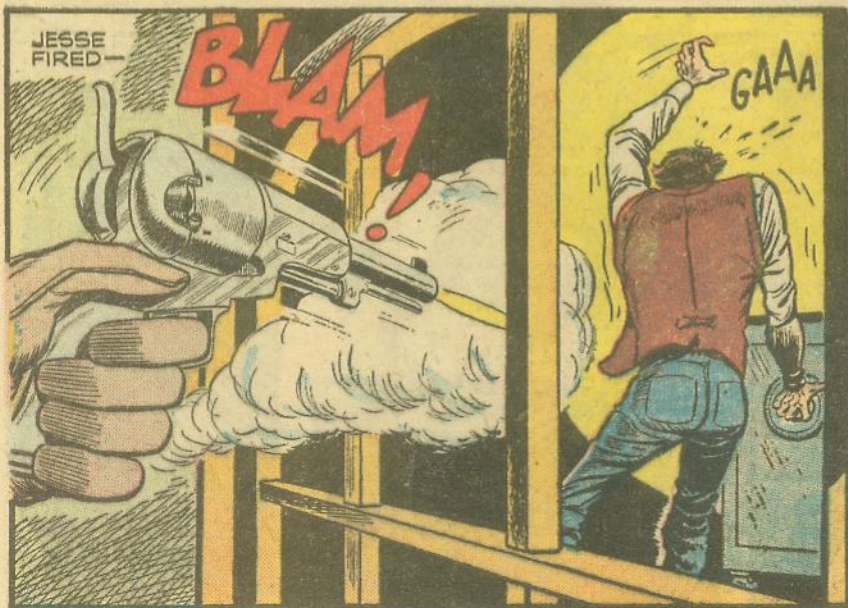
MAKE THIS FAST! WE DON'T WANT TO CROWD OUR LUCK TOO FAR!

THE BANK-TELLER MOVED LIKE LIGHTNING AS THE WORDS OF JESSE JAMES CRACKED THROUGH THE BANK...



GOT TO CLOSE THE SAFE! LOCK IT!

DON'T ANYONE MOVE!



JESSE FIRED—

BLAM!

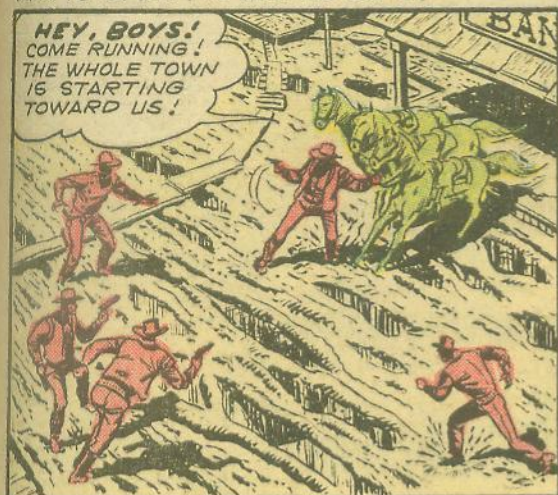
HIS HAND SLIPPED AWAY FROM THE DIAL, BUT GAVE IT A TWIST AS HE DROPPED, LOCKING THE BIG FLOOR-SAFE...



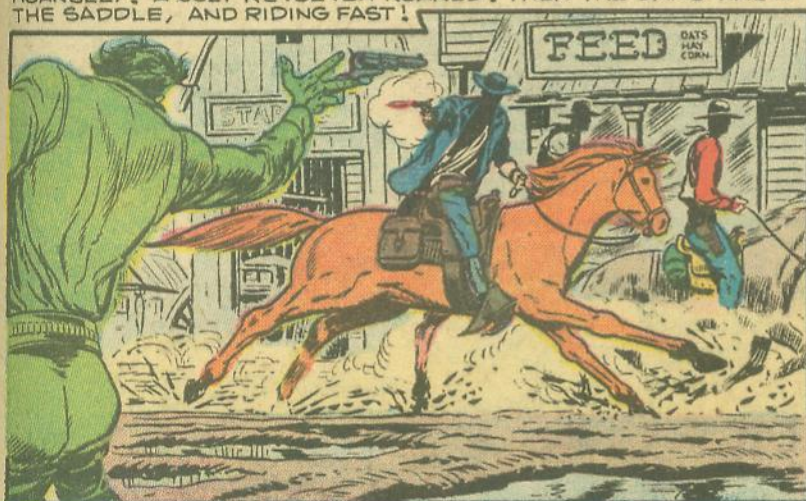
GAAA

THAT GUNSHOT ALERTED THE ENTIRE TOWN!
THERE WAS NO TIME TO PAUSE AND FORCE A
MAN TO OPEN THE LOCKED SAFE!

HEY, BOYS!
COME RUNNING!
THE WHOLE TOWN
IS STARTING
TOWARD US!



A HORSE SQUEALED AS HE FELT A SPUR JAB! A MAN CRIED OUT
HOARSELY! A COLT REVOLVER ROARED! THEN THE GANG WAS IN
THE SADDLE, AND RIDING FAST!

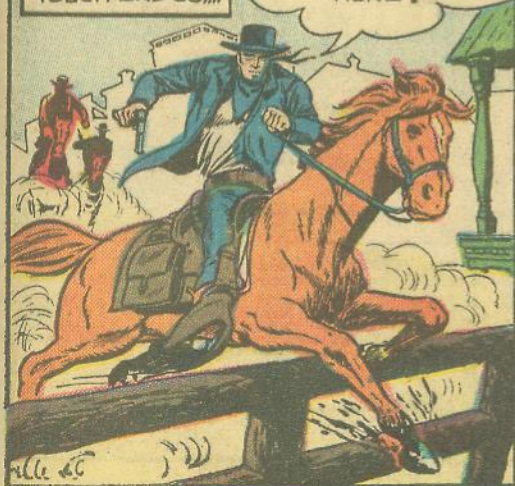


EVERY MAN FOR
HIMSELF! SHOOT
TO KILL!



FOR A LITTLE
WHILE, IT WAS
TOUGH AND GO...

DIG DIRT, BRONC!
LET'S GET OUT OF
HERE!



JESSE JAMES AND
HIS MEN GOT AWAY
FROM SAVANNAH,
BUT THEY GOT NO
MONEY FOR THEIR
EFFORTS. STILL,
THE FEVER FOR
EASY LOOT WAS IN
THEIR BLOOD. THEY
HAD MADE A BEGIN-
NING. FROM THIS
BEGINNING, THEY
WERE TO GO ON,
WRITING THEIR
NAMES IN THE
ANNALS OF AMER-
ICA'S CRIMINAL
WARFARE. OUT OF
THE TWENTY-EIGHT
MEN WHO WERE TO
FOLLOW JESSE IN
HIS YEARS OF ROB-
BERY, ONLY NINE WERE
TO DIE NATURAL
DEATHS. THE REST
DIED BY HOT LEAD!

THE TRAIL LAID DOWN BY
JESSE OUT OF SAVANNAH
ON THAT LONG-AGO MARCH
DAY WAS LEADING TO
THEIR GRAVES...





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ROY ROGERS
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WALKING
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TYPEWRITER



WHITE ZIPPER
BIBLE



UKELELE
WITH ARTHUR
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THE GHOST RIDER!**

**ONLY
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**AMAZE YOUR FRIENDS
WITH THIS WEIRD SCARF
THAT BECOMES A REAL
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THAT GLOWS IN THE DARK!**

A scarf
...with the name of
THE GHOST RIDER bannered
on it...and a **SPOOKY**
white mask that becomes a
GHOST RIDER SKULL when
the mask is tied on...!

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28 SAMPLES FREE

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**No charge—no money needed—just send name
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The most complete line of name-imprinted cards in America. Choice of 28 exciting new designs including Religious, Humorous, Artistic and Business. Printed, Embossed or Die Cut. All in beautiful portfolios that makes taking orders just a matter of showing these beautiful samples. Money-making is fun!

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